



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Office of the President

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TO: Gene Smith

FROM: Dr. Michael V. Drake

DATE: October 2, 2019

RE: 2018–2019 Annual Performance Review

As part of your performance management review for the academic year ending June 30, 2019, outlined below is a recap of my comments specific to your role as senior vice president and director of Athletics.

You are a highly regarded national leader in your field and a valued university leader. Your reputation is a reflection of your character as well as the accomplishments of our student-athletes and the athletics department. It also reflects the emphasis you and the team place on providing student-athletes at Ohio State the greatest opportunity to be successful both on and off the field. This year, 674 student-athletes were recognized as scholar-athletes, with a Big Ten record 449 academic honorees.

The creation of the Eugene D. Smith Leadership Institute is developing terrific opportunities for student-athletes, which will continue to be a key initiative for helping ensure their success after graduation. With 1,916 students engaged in EDSLI offerings this year, there is great interest and opportunity to help shape the future for our graduates whether they enter the workforce, continue on to graduate school or professional sports. I encourage you to stay visible and actively involved in the leadership of the programs associated with the institute.

As you continue to lead the athletics program, I encourage you to proactively identify and share areas of concern as well as ideas and opportunities that could benefit the greater university. There is terrific work underway to enhance the student-athlete experience at Ohio State that could be transferrable to many student programs. Under your leadership, I would like to see collaborative transfer of knowledge and operational excellence. This will ensure continued alignment between the athletics and academic enterprise while helping more areas learn from the successes of our athletics organization.

Thank you for your contributions and commitment to the university.